

Bonsall Community Trails and Pathways Plan

Trails: The Community Connection

The Community Trails Master Plan will be utilized to develop a system of interconnected regional and community trails and pathways. These trails and pathways are intended to address an established public need for recreation and transportation, but will also provide health and quality of life benefits associated with hiking, biking, and horseback riding throughout the County’s biologically diverse environments.

Community trails serve a different function than regional trails, which are focused on the provision of long linear distances. Instead, community trails are “local public facilities” in close proximity to residents that provide transportation, recreation, access, infrastructure, linkages and safe routes throughout a community.

The Community Trails Master Plan (CTMP) involves both trail development and management on public, semi-public and private lands. The CTMP has established two forms of non-motorized facilities called “Trails” and “Pathways” that provide

passive recreational, and alternative modes of transportation.



Popular riding area in Bonsall

Trails are typically away from vehicular roads that are primarily recreational in nature but can also serve as an alternative mode of transportation. They are soft-surface facilities for single or multiple uses by pedestrians, equestrians, and mountain bicyclists.

Pathways are a non-motorized transportation facility located within a parkway or road right of way. A riding and hiking trail located in the road right of way is considered a pathway. They are soft-surfaced facilities intended to serve both circulation and recreation purposes. Pathways help make critical connections and are an integral part of a functional trail system.

COMMUNITY TRAIL STATEMENT

The Bonsall Community Trail Plan goal is to establish and protect an enjoyable, efficient, and safe network of public riding and hiking trails. The focus of the trails is to create a interconnected "trail" system both as a recreational element, while functioning as a linear park, and to support non-motorized transportation, i.e., horseback riding, walking, hiking and bicycling.

The Bonsall area has a rural character with agriculture, estate lots, hills with steep slopes, valleys, creeks and the San Luis Rey River running through the community. The San Luis Rey River Trail South has been used by riding clubs of Bonsall since 1940 as the main equestrian trail along the south side of the San Luis Rey River. Since the early 1940's, many publications, newspaper articles, and local riding magazines have focused on the incredible equestrian experience offered by this important trail.

The Bonsall Conservancy has been working with landowners along the trail to acquire

easements and will participate in maintaining the trail. Because of the strong equestrian influences along this trail and the historic use by several riding clubs, the community desires only equestrian users on this particular trail. Articles such as "*Bonsall Center is 'like spa' for horses*" dated Sunday, August 4, 2002 North County Times, have appeared in the Union/Tribune, North County Times, and local riding magazines since 1940.

San Luis Rey River Trail South has several club rides every year with at least one per month and daily rides by several members to maintain the trail. San Luis Rey River Trail North has a linear river park designed to start at the old Bonsall Bridge and finish at Highway 15. The trail in this linear river park meanders between Highway 76 and the San Luis Rey River. This trail, on the north side of the San Luis Rey River, will be for non-motorized transportation and hiking and will complement the community's network of public trails throughout Bonsall.

It will provide connection to trails coming from Oceanside through Bonsall and to all communities east of Bonsall as a future regional trail. The Camino del Rey Trail would connect to several private training tracks and breeding facilities and provide connections with the San Luis Rey River Trail South. Old Highway 395 Trail is needed to complete the connection to county trails east of Interstate 15. Little Gopher Canyon Trail is needed to connect a large private riding club and community equestrian facilities in this part of

the community as well as connect the Gopher Canyon area with the San Luis Rey River.

THE NEED FOR TRAILS

The community trail needs are based on an equation established by the Trails System Assessment (TSA) in 2001, which identified a minimum baseline level of service for each community by population. The Baseline Level of Service or Trail Need is 0.8 miles of trail per 1,000 people.

The “Trail Need” is the minimum length of trail miles (baseline level of service) for each Community and Subregional Plan Area. The TSA calculations for community trail needs are as follows:

- **Trail Need** = (Community Population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2000 Trail Need** = (2000 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)
- **2020 Trail Need** = (2020 population /1,000 residents x 0.8 miles of trails)

Population statistics from the 2000 U.S. Census were used to determine the current trail needs in Bonsall. Based on the census, the population of the Bonsall Community Plan Area is 8,874 and there is a current need for 7 miles of community trails. In the year 2020, the population is projected to increase to 14,470 and there would be a future need for 12 miles of community trails.

For additional information about the baseline level of service and trail needs, please refer to the discussion under “**The Need for Trails**” and **Tables NT-1 and NT-2** in the CTMP.

COUNTYWIDE TRAIL GOALS AND POLICIES

The “**Countywide Goals and Policies**” contained in the CTMP apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific goals and policies are intended to accommodate specific needs and they will be implemented when feasible. The Bonsall Community Sponsor Group developed Community Specific Goals and Policies for their community trails plan. The abbreviations are as follows:

SG = Community Specific Goal
SP = Community Specific Policy

Policy: SP 1

Trails and pathways shall be developed with native soils wherever possible; slope and erosion conditions must be considered.

Policy: SP 2

New pathways are to have fencing or barriers between the traveled portion of the road and the pathway in cases where parkway widths are 15 feet or greater.

Where Community-specific goals and policies are not addressed, the “**Countywide**

Goals and Policies” contained in CTMP shall apply.

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

Countywide trail guidelines in the Community Trails Master Plan apply to all community and sub-regional plan areas. Community-specific guidelines are intended to accommodate specific community needs and they will be implemented when feasible. Where Community specific guidelines are not addressed, the Countywide **“Design and Construction Guidelines”** contained in the CTMP shall apply.

BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAIL IMPLEMENTATION INFORMATION

Community members formed the Bonsall Conservancy in 2000. Members of the Conservancy have been working with the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group regarding the General Plan 2020 plan and the Trails Committee.

The Conservancy was founded to create a plan to acquire and maintain trails throughout the Community. The Conservancy has started discussions with property owners to acquire easements across public and private lands held by private owners (such as the privately owned golf course) to establish trails. The Conservancy would then be responsible to maintain the easements/trails. They are currently focusing

on trail San Luis Rey River Trail South and its development.

BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAILS MAP SUMMARY

As a result of the community trails outreach process for development of the CTMP, the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group completed several tasks, and prioritized community trails and pathways as well as their special features. Each trail and pathway was labeled and recorded producing a community trails map and index.

Proposed trails shown on trails maps contained in the Community Trail Master Plan depict corridors of general alignments. The term “general alignment” is used to describe the general location of a future trail within a designated corridor so that the specific alignment can be determined during the review and approval process when a discretionary application is submitted for a development permit for land that includes a trail corridor. The designated corridor is approximately one-quarter mile wide. A general alignment is useful because it allows the trail to be located to avoid extreme topographical conditions, sensitive habitat or other site-specific constraints.

BONSALL COMMUNITY TRAILS MAP INDEX

The following community trails map index was completed by the Bonsall Community Sponsor Group and will be used as a reference tool.

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

Trail #: 1	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: San Luis Rey River Trail North <u>Connections:</u> Trails #3, 4, 8 & 15.	Trail Status: (x) Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Non-motorized only. This trail meets all of the examples of trail priority criteria.	Special Features: Near transit and is part of a proposed river park with staging area. Design has been submitted to County. This trail connects to Oceanside under the old Bonsall Bridge as well as Vista and Fallbrook with Trail #8. This would provide through its connectors ocean to Highway 15 access.
			Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 6.5		
Trail #: 2	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: San Luis Rey River Trail South <u>Connections:</u> Trails #3, 4, 7, 9, 14, 15	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: This trail is currently being used as a equestrian only since 1940.	Special Features: Private property owner to give Bonsall Conservancy easement to allow trails. Conservancy and riding clubs will maintain trail. Funding for white split rail fence along the entire trail needed. Could this be funded as part of the trail system? Staging area under the Old Bonsall Bridge is also part of this trail.
			Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 6.5		
Trail #: 3	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: Camino Del Rey Trail <u>Connections:</u> Trails #2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian only. This trail connects to the major Trails of # 1 and #2 east/west to north/south Trail #4 and provides a staging area.	Special Features: The white wood split rail fencing is part of the design standard of Bonsall. This area is also a very large breeding and horse racing area with two major training tracks.
			Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 3.75		
Trail #: 4	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: Old Highway 395 Trail <u>Connections:</u> Trails #1, 2, 3, 5, 11, 16	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian and non-motorized. This trail is a supportive trail for all Planning and Sponsor Groups along the 15/395 corridor	Special Features: County owned road with improvements would be benefit to all.
			Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 6		
Trail #: 5	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: Nelson Way Trail <u>Connections:</u> Trails #1, 2, 3, 4, 16 to Valley Center along water authority easement assoc. w/ aqueduct line. Note: outside planning area but important trail for area.	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian only. Note: outside our area but very important connector trail with Valley Center.	Special Features: Beauty and no major costs. Agreement with water authority to use easement.
			Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 2+		
Trail #: 6	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: North Twin Oaks Connector Trail <u>Connections:</u> Trail #4, 7, 10	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian and non-motorized.	Special Features: Trail to connect Twin Oaks System along the private road Twin Oaks.
			Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway		
			Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 2		

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
7	7	Little Gopher Canyon Trail	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway	Equestrian only. This is a very important trail as the riding club from the 1940's is located on this trail. Bt having a clearly marked horse crossing across Old River Road the connection to Trail #2 would be safer for the community	This area has the white wood split rail fencing and has a very large horse breeding population.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: (x) 1 () 2 () 3		
		Trails #2, 6, 10, 14	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 3.2		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
8	7	Olive Hill Trail	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway	Non-motorized. This trail would connect Fallbrook with our east/west Trails #1 & #2 ultimately giving them access to a larger trail system.	Developers in the area also creating trails within their projects to connect within the community.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
		Trail #1, 2, 3, to Fallbrook	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 1.3		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
9	7	North Slope Connector Trail	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway	Equestrian only. This trail is part of the only north/south trail system to connect Bonsall without using Trail #4 on the eastern border.	Use public roads and private property that has undeveloped dirt roads available.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
		Trails #2, 3, 10, 12	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 3		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
10	7	South Ridge Trail	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway	Equestrian only. Trail #10 connects to Trails #9 and #6 and is part of the only north and south route available, not located on the eastern border of Bonsall.	This trail is along private and public roads only.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
		Trails #3, 6, 7, 9, 13	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 1.5		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
11	7	Supplyline Trail	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway	Equestrian and non-motorized. This is a connector from Trail #3 and a staging area for a small loop that connects to Trail #4.	This trail would be alongside the water aqueduct line and private roads.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
		Trails #3, 4	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 2.5		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
12	7	Lilac Trail	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway	Equestrian and non-motorized. This trail supports the connective Trails #2, #3 & #9	This trail would be along side the public road West Lilac Road.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
		Trails #3 & #9	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 2		
Trail #:	USGS Quad(s):	Name:	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
13	7	Sunset Trail	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway	Equestrian only. This is a connector trail from Trail #3 to #10 through hilly terrain.	This trail is located on private and public roads.
		Connections:	Trail Priority: () 1 () 2 (x) 3		
		Trails #3 & #10	Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 1.5		

COUNTY TRAILS PROGRAM
COMMUNITY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

BONSALL TRAILS MAP INDEX

Trail #: 14	USGS Quad(s): 7	Name: Gentle Valley Trail	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian only. Connects Trail #2 to Trail #7.	Special Features: This trail is located on both private and public roads as well as private land.
		Connections:	Trail Type: (x) Trail (x) Pathway		
		Trails #2 & #7	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 2		
Trail #: 15	USGS Quad(s): 65	Name: West Bonsall Trail	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian only. Staging area at Osborne connecting the southwest area of Bonsall to Trail #2.	Special Features: This trail uses public roads and private land.
		Connections:	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
		Trail #2	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles:		
Trail #: 16	USGS Quad(s): 65	Name: South East Bonsall Trail	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria: Equestrian and non-motorized. This trail connects Trail #6 to #4 via the use of an existing road tunnel under Hwy 15. This region of Bonsall is mountainous and very rural.	Special Features: Trail is on private and public roads.
		Connections:	Trail Type: (x) Trail () Pathway		
		Trails #4 & #6 to Valley Center and Hidden Meadows.	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles: 5.2		
Trail#: 17	USGS Quad(s): 65	Name: N/A	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
		Connections:	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
			Trail Priority: () 1 () 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles:		
Trail #: 18	USGS Quad(s): 65	Name: N/A	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
		Connections:	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
		West side of East Vista Way Mission Ave to Osborne St.	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles:		
Trail #: 19	USGS Quad(s): 65	Name: N/A	Trail Status: () Existing (x) Proposed	Trail Priority Criteria:	Special Features:
		Connections:	Trail Type: () Trail (x) Pathway		
		North side of Osborne St. from E. Vista Way to Hutchinson.	Trail Priority: () 1 (x) 2 () 3		
			Estimated Trail Length in Miles:		